This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Council without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 58 (H.218). Crimes and criminal procedures; animal cruelty

An act relating to the adequate shelter of dogs and cats

This act makes various changes to the definitions in the Humane and Proper Treatment of Animals chapter of Title 13, including adding definitions for "enclosure" and "livestock guardian dog," changing the definition of "living space" to clarify that the cage, crate, or other structure must provide protection from the elements, changing the definition of "adequate water" to require that potable water must be accessible to an animal at all times or provided in sufficient intervals, but no less than every 24 hours, and also to stipulate that snow or ice is not adequate water unless in accordance with livestock and poultry husbandry standards. This act also amends the requirements under this chapter for the shelter of animals.

Effective Date: July 1, 2017